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✓ Latest release

Jobs in Australia

Information about the number and nature of filled jobs and the people who hold them

Reference period 2020-21 financial year

Released 6/12/2023

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Key statistics

During 2020-21:

- There were 20.8 million jobs, up 4.1% on 2019-20
- The LGA with the highest number of jobs was Brisbane, with 1,103,000 jobs
- 5.5 million jobs were held by migrants (who have arrived in Australia since 2000)

Jobs in Australia (JIA), along with [Personal Income in Australia \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/personal-income-australia/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/personal-income-australia/latest-release) (PIA), is one of two releases containing data from the Linked Employer-Employee Dataset (LEED). The [Jobs and Income of Employed Persons, 2020-21 \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/jobs-australia\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/jobs-australia) TableBuilder product is intended for release next year and contains more detailed data from the LEED.

Geography

The latest version of the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\) Edition 3 \(/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/latest-release\)](/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/latest-release) has been implemented in this release, with data from 2016-17 onwards available on the new ASGS. Data on the previous version of ASGS is available in previous releases.

Revisions

Data from 2016-17 to 2019-20 has been reprocessed which has resulted in small differences to the historical data.

Guide to labour statistics

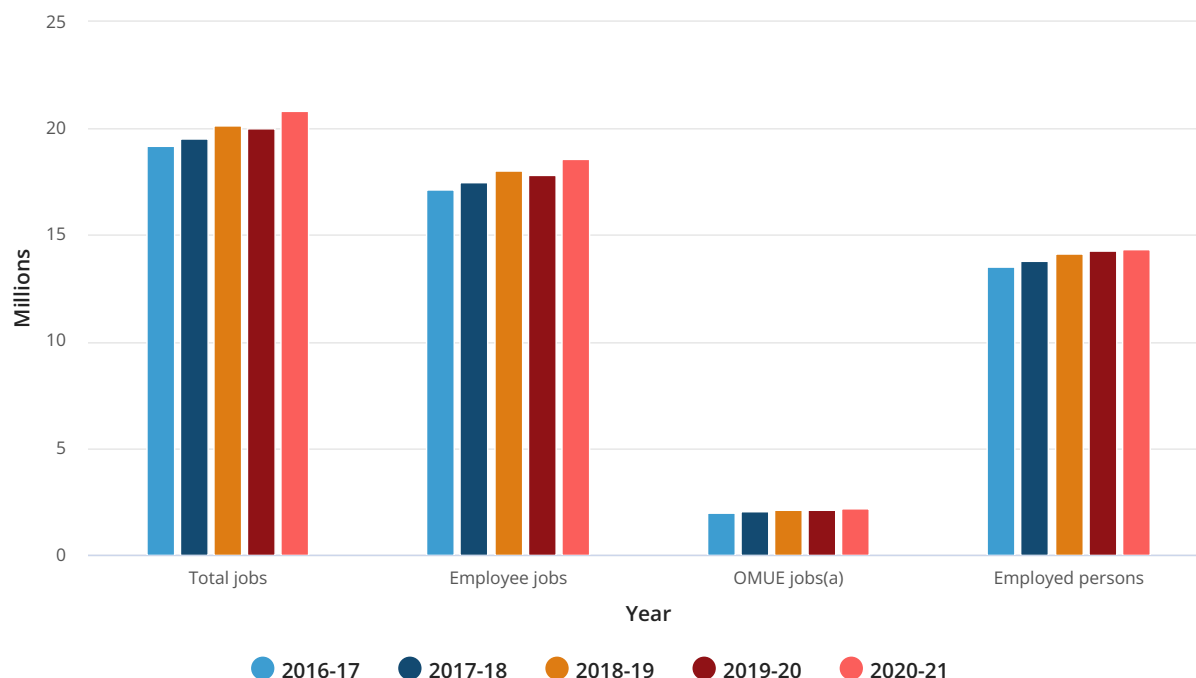
To learn more about our different labour measures, their purpose and how to use them, see our [Guide to labour statistics \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics). It provides summary information on labour market topics including [Industry employment \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide) data.

Jobs, employed persons and income, 2020-21

	Number	Change in last year	Change since 2016-17
Jobs	20,811,900	4.1%	8.6%
Held by men	10,636,700	3.2%	6.8%
Held by women	10,161,200	4.9%	10.4%
Employed persons	14,365,500	0.6%	6.1%
Median employee income per job (duration adjusted)	\$47,756	4.6%	10.6%
(a)			
Total employment income	\$975 Billion	6.0%	21.7%

a. 'Duration adjusted' is an analytical measure of employee income per job that seeks to put all jobs onto a comparable full-year duration basis.

Graph 1 - Number of jobs and employed persons, 2016-17 to 2020-21



a. Owner-managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Jobs

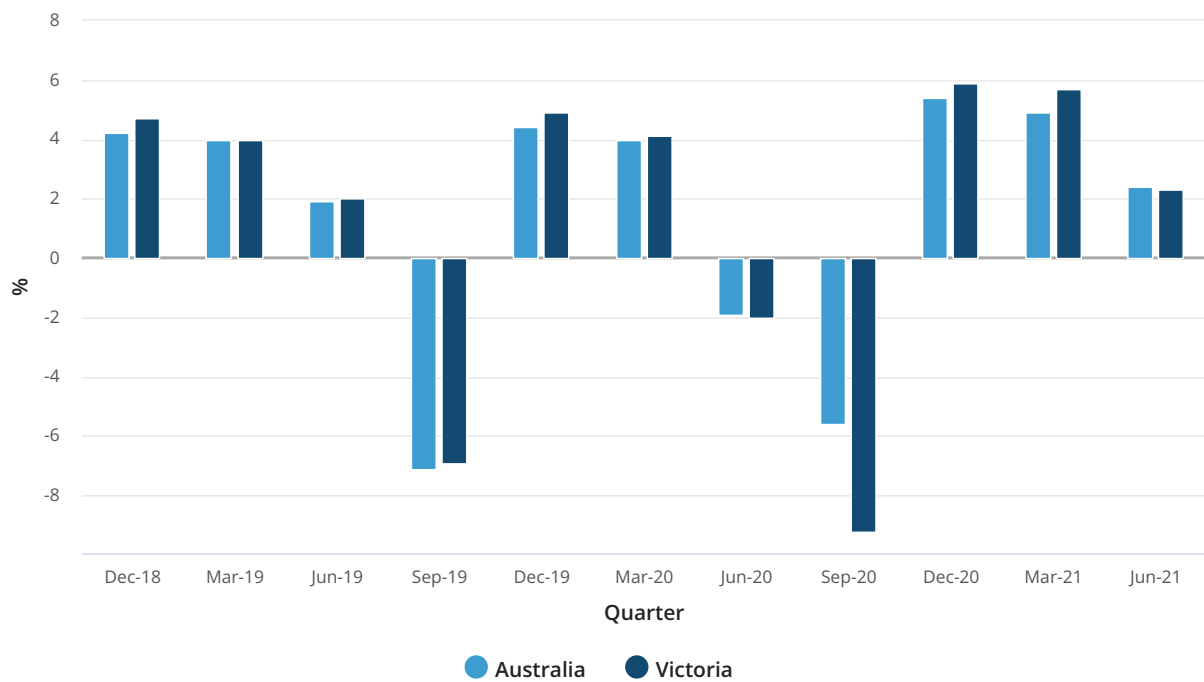
During 2020-21 there were 20.8 million jobs:

- 18.6 million (89.4%) jobs were worked by employees (including owner managers of incorporated enterprises) and 2.2 million (10.6%) jobs were worked by owner managers of unincorporated enterprises
- 16.0 million (76.9%) were private sector jobs and 3.3 million (15.9%) were public sector jobs. Some job records had missing or unknown sector information and therefore these percentages do not add to 100.

Quarterly change in jobs between 2018-19 and 2020-21 shows a seasonal pattern with a fall of jobs in September quarters and job growth in other quarters. An exception to this pattern is the job fall of 1.9% across Australia and 2% in Victoria in June quarter 2020 when COVID first impacted on the jobs data.

Between the June 2020 and September 2020 quarters, the number of jobs fell by 5.6%. Victoria recorded the largest fall in jobs (down 9.2%) among all states and territories.

Graph 2 - Quarterly change in jobs, 2018-19 to 2020-21

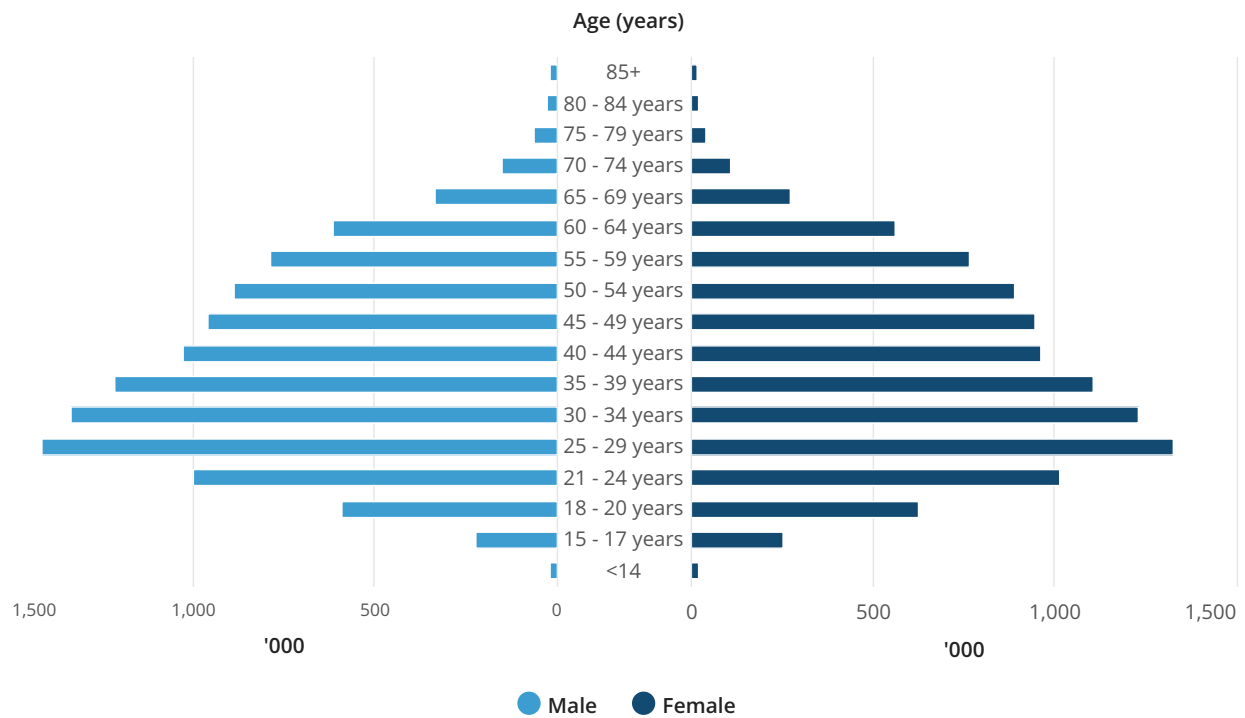


Employed people

During 2020-21:

- There were 14.4 million employed people, up 0.6% on 2019-20
- The cohort of people aged 25-29 years had the highest number of jobs (2.7 million)

Graph 3 - Number of jobs by age and sex, 2020-21

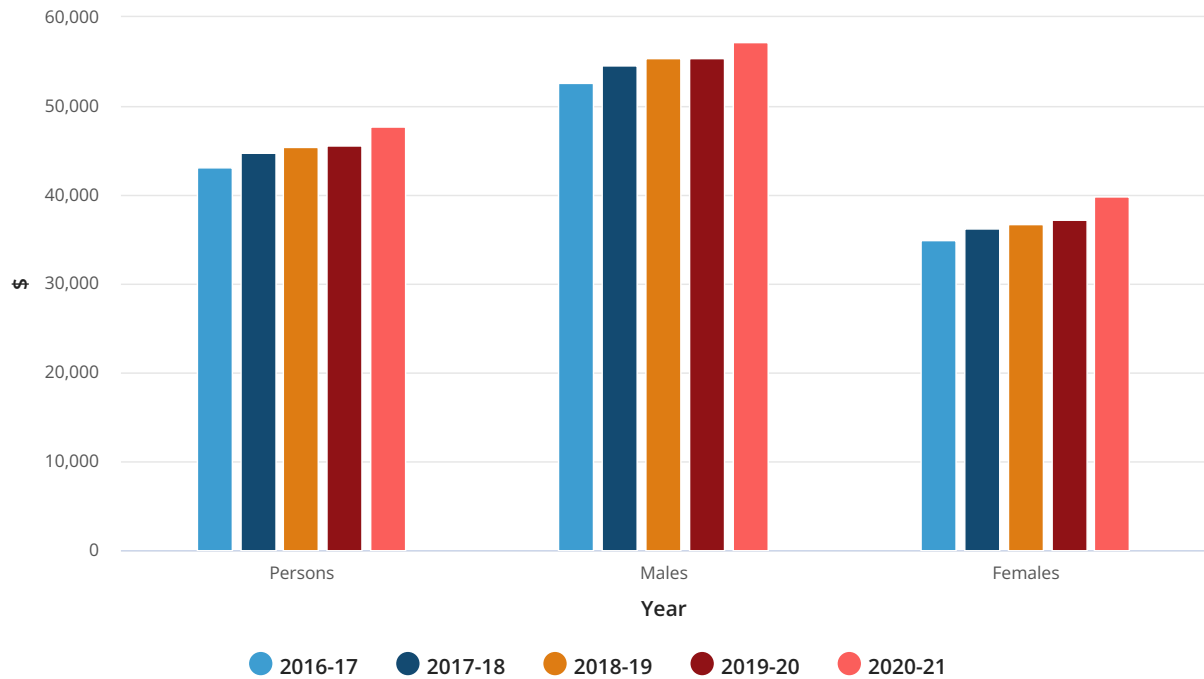


Employee income

In 2020-21, after adjusting for the duration of the job to put all jobs onto a comparable full-year duration basis, the median annual employee income per job was:

- \$47,756 for all people
- \$57,262 for males
- \$39,783 for females

Graph 4 - Median employee income per job(a), 2016-17 to 2020-21



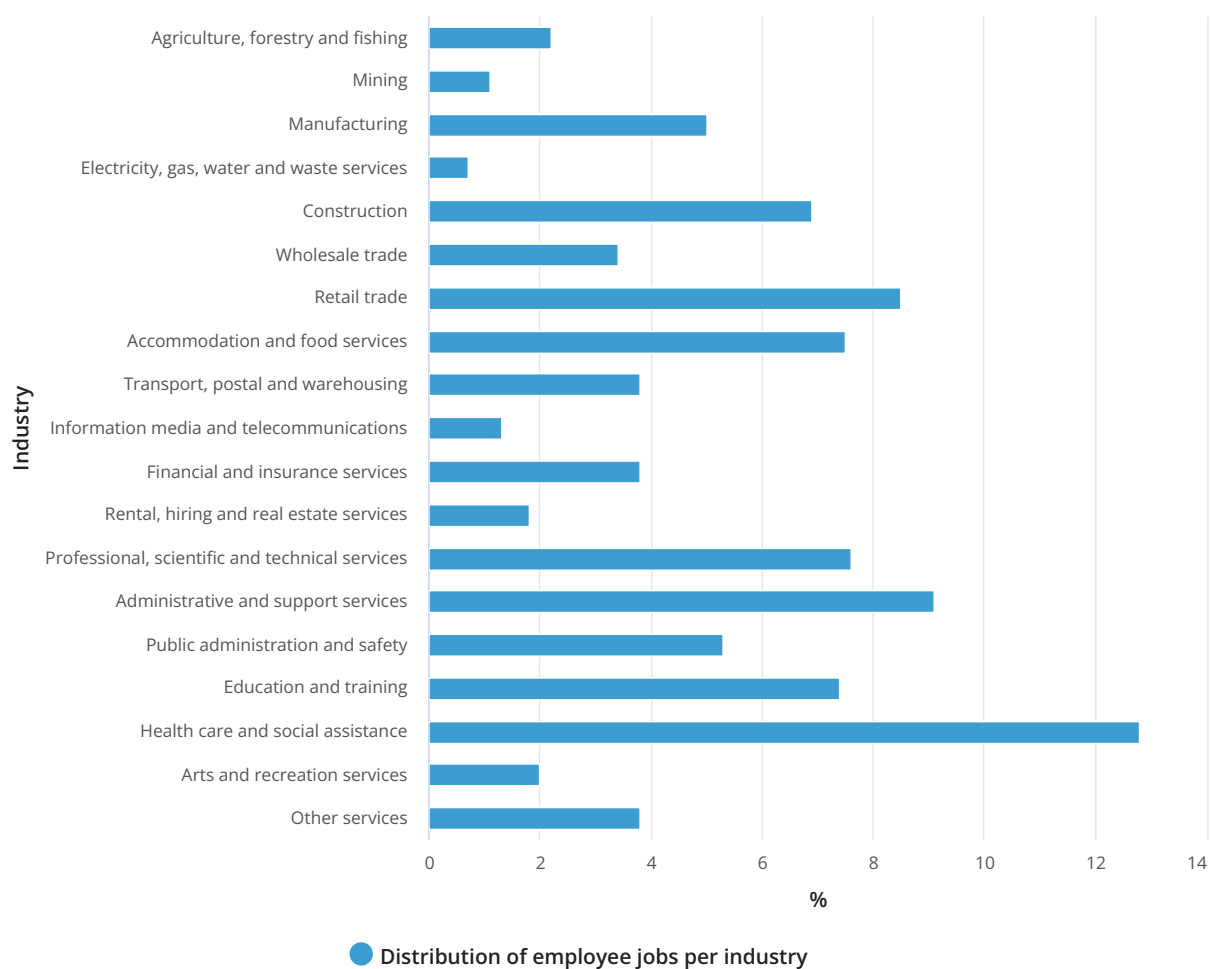
a. Employee income data are 'duration adjusted' - an analytical measure of employee income per job that seeks to put all jobs onto a comparable full-year duration basis.

Industry

During 2020-21, the industries with the largest share of jobs were:

- Health care and social assistance (12.8%)
- Administrative and support services (9.1%)
- Retail trade (8.5%)

Graph 5 - Distribution of jobs by industry(a), 2020-21



a. Some jobs records had missing or unknown industry information and therefore these percentages do not add to 100

To learn more about the various ABS sources of industry data, see our [Industry employment guide \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide/\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide/).

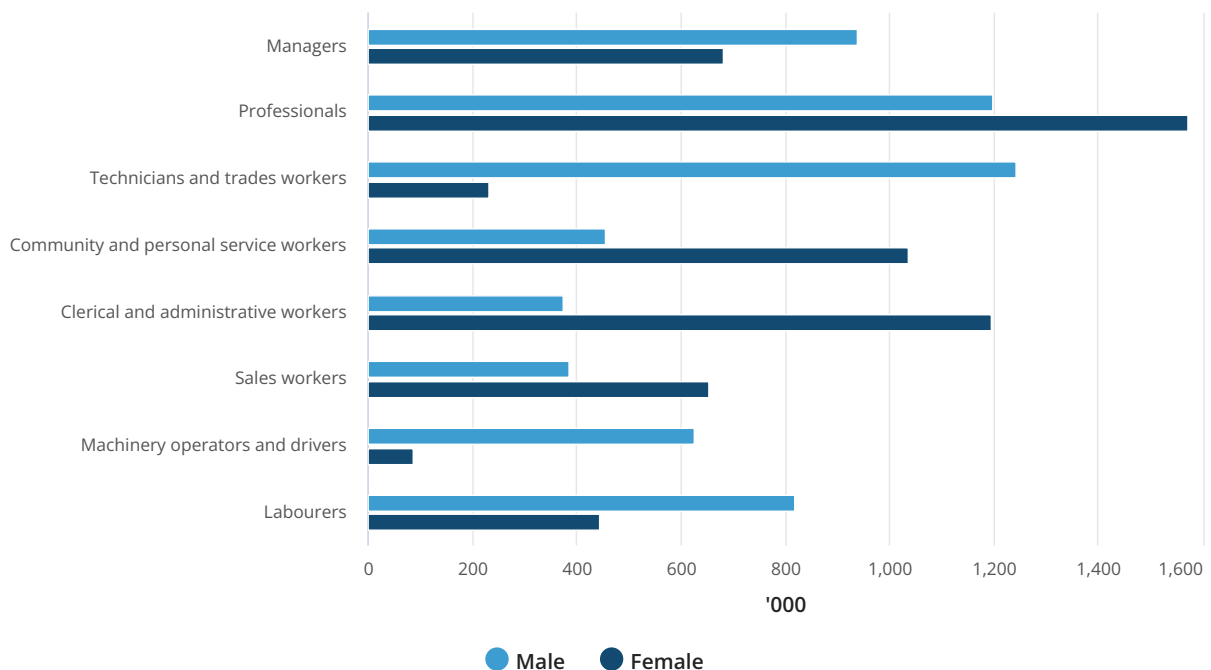
Occupation

During 2020-21, the most common occupations were:

- Professionals (19.3%)
- Managers (11.3%)
- Clerical and administrative workers (10.9%)

For men, the most common occupation was Technicians and trades workers, while for women it was Professionals.

Graph 6 - Number of employed persons per selected occupation of main job by sex, 2020-21



Business size

During 2020-21:

- 6.2 million jobs (29.6%) were worked in small businesses (less than 20 employees)
- 4.5 million jobs (21.6%) were worked in medium businesses (between 20 and 199)

employees)

- 8.7 million jobs (41.6%) were worked in large businesses (200 or more employees)

Some jobs records had missing or unknown business size information and therefore these percentages do not add to 100.

State and territory

During 2020-21, the number of jobs was largest in:

- New South Wales (6.5 million jobs)
- Victoria (5.3 million jobs)
- Queensland (4.3 million jobs)

Graph 7 - Jobs by state and territory(a), 2020-21



a. Refers to the state or territory of usual residence of the job-holder

Regions

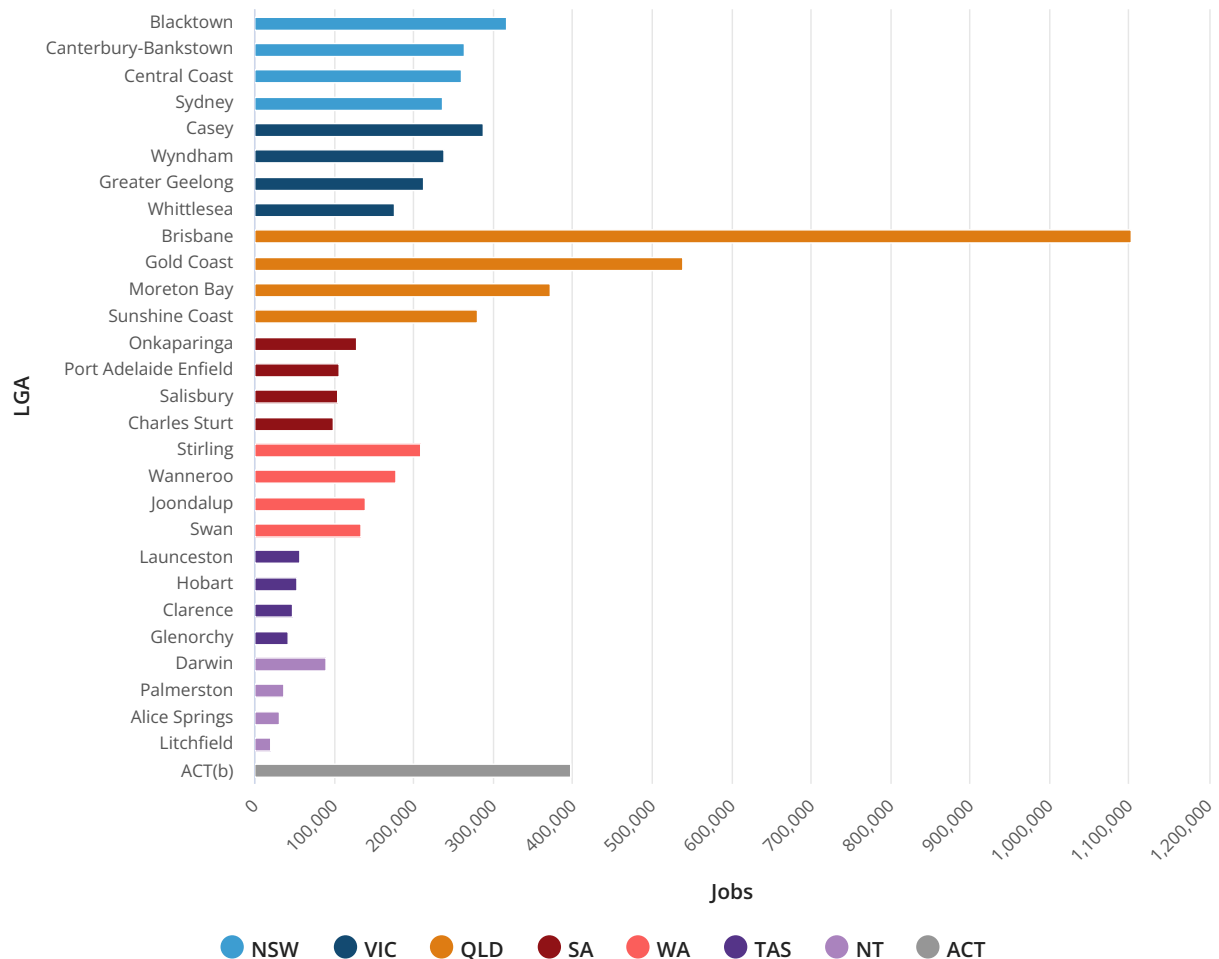
In 2020-21,

the local government areas (LGAs) with the highest number of jobs in each state and territory were:

- New South Wales: Blacktown (316,000 jobs)
- Victoria: Casey (287,000 jobs)
- Queensland: Brisbane (1,103,000 jobs)
- South Australia: Onkaparinga (129,000 jobs)
- Western Australia: Stirling (209,000 jobs)
- Tasmania: Launceston (56,000 jobs)
- Northern Territory: Darwin (90,000 jobs)

The Australian Capital Territory has no separate local governments. Data is available for SA3s and SA2s in the Data Downloads.

Graph 8 - Local government areas with the highest numbers of jobs, 2020-21(a)



a. Refers to the Local Government Area of usual residence of the job-holder. Excludes Local Government Areas with less than 1,000 earners.

b. The Australian Capital Territory has no separate local governments.

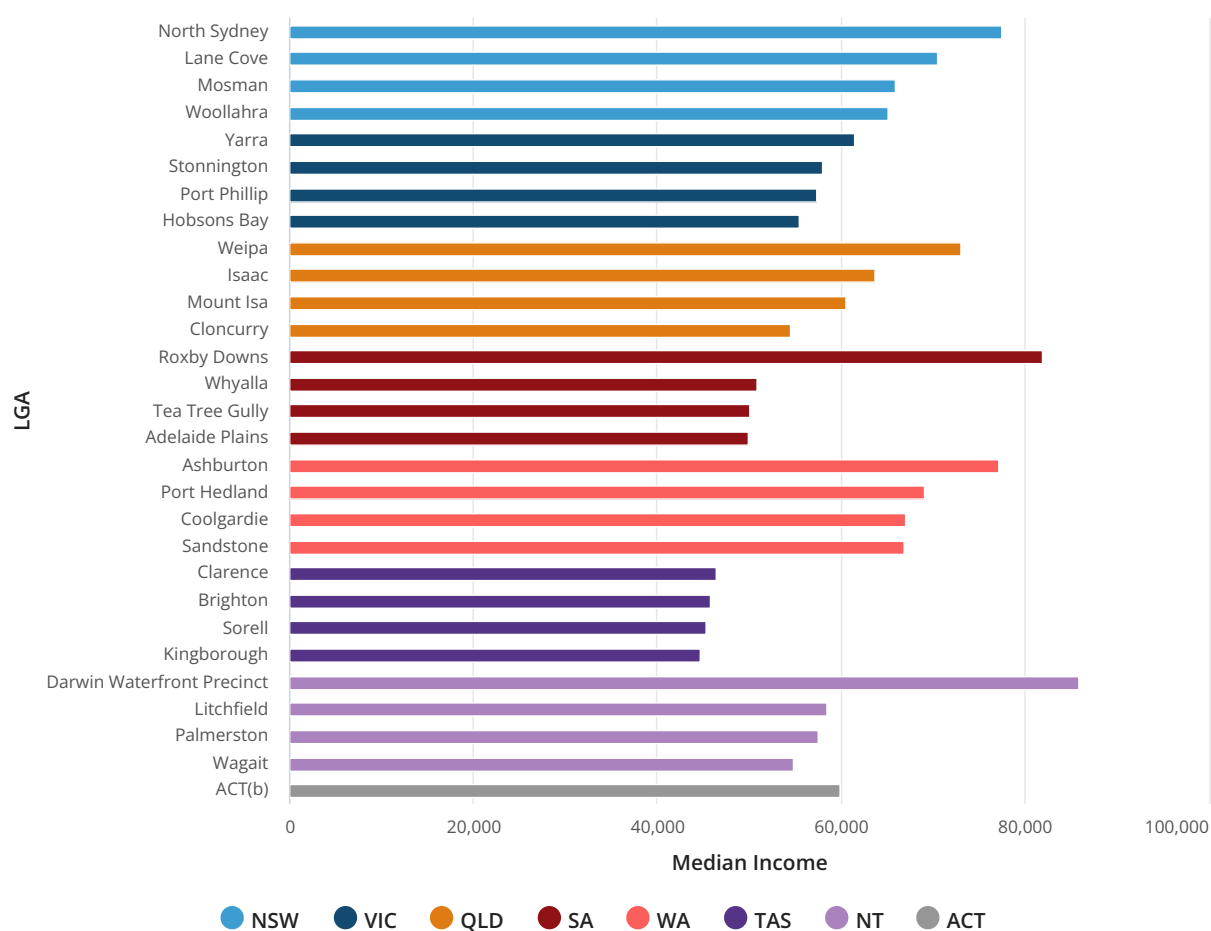
In 2020-21,

the LGAs with the highest median employee income per job in each state and territory were:

- New South Wales: North Sydney (\$77,486)
- Victoria: Yarra (\$61,536)

- Queensland: Weipa (\$73,044)
- South Australia: Roxby Downs (\$81,980)
- Western Australia: Ashburton (\$77,172)
- Tasmania: Clarence (\$46,496)
- Northern Territory: Darwin Waterfront Precinct (\$85,902)

Graph 9 - Local government areas with the highest median employee income per job, 2020-21(a)



a. Refers to the Local Government Area of usual residence of the job-holder. Excludes Local Government Areas with less than 1,000 earners.

b. The Australian Capital Territory has no separate local governments.

Employed migrants

In this release, 'migrants' refers to people who have arrived in Australia since January 2000, and includes permanent migrants that have become Australian citizens during this period.

During 2020-21:

- 5.5 million jobs were held by migrants
- 3.3 million (60.0%) jobs were held by permanent migrants, 2.1 million (39.0%) by temporary visa holders and 55,000 (1.0%) by migrants who had gained Australian citizenship
- 4.5 million (81.7%) jobs held by migrants were private sector jobs and 591,200 (10.8%) were public sector jobs
- 1.6 million migrant jobs (29.0%) were held at small businesses (less than 20 employees)
- 1.3 million migrant jobs (22.9%) were held at medium businesses (between 20 and 199 employees)
- 2.2 million migrant jobs (40.6%) were held at large businesses (200 or more employees)

Some job records had missing or unknown sector or employer size information and therefore these percentages do not add to 100.

Jobs held by migrants

	Number
Jobs	5,498,400
Held by men	2,887,100
Held by women	2,611,100
By sector	
Private sector	4,492,800
Public sector	591,200
By employer size	
1-19 employees	1,594,800
20-199 employees	1,259,500
200 or more employees	2,229,700

Between 2019-20 and 2020-21, the number of jobs held by migrants:

- increased from 5.3 million to 5.5 million jobs (up 4.4%)
- increased across all permanent migrant visa groups, particularly for permanent skilled migrants with an increase of 162,500 jobs (up 9.1%)
- decreased for temporary skilled and student visa holders, with the largest decrease in jobs held by working holiday makers which fell by 180,100 jobs (down 53.2%)

Migrant jobs by visa group, 2019-20 and 2020-21

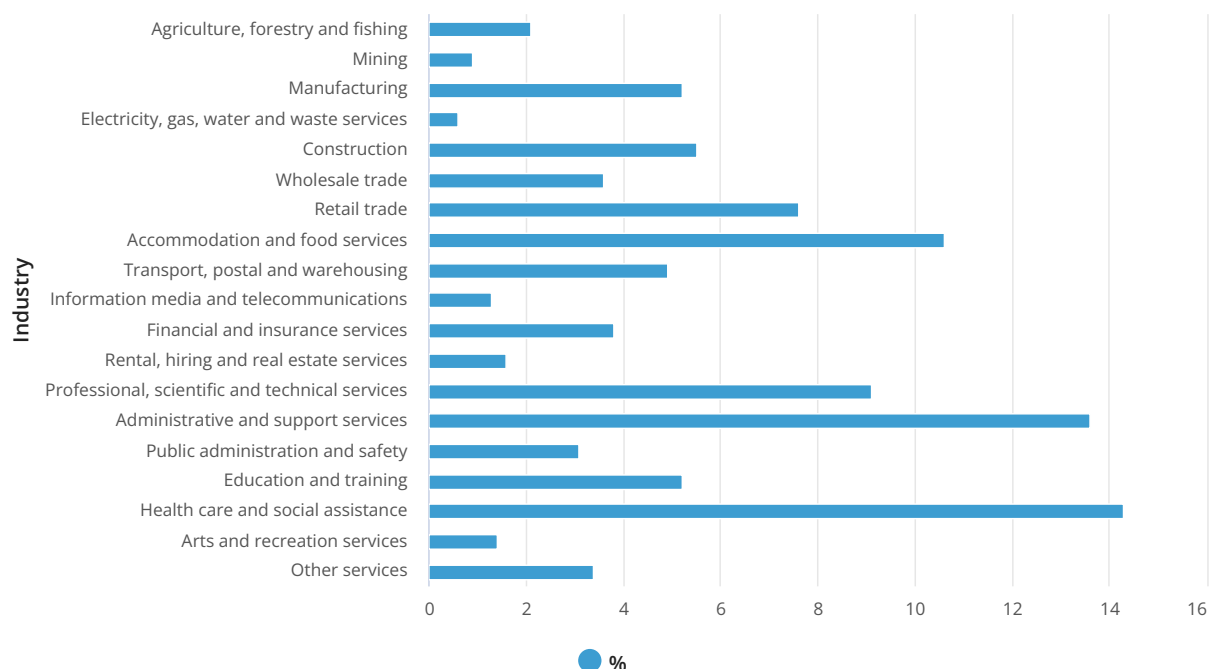
	2019-20	2020-21
Permanent	2,988,200	3,298,000
Permanent skilled	1,781,500	1,944,000
Permanent family	813,300	927,800
Permanent humanitarian	183,800	212,000
Permanent other	209,600	214,300
Provisional	175,200	182,600
Australian citizen	51,800	54,900
NZ citizen (subclass 444)	679,300	707,000
Temporary	2,224,300	2,145,500
Temporary skilled	114,500	94,700
Temporary student	570,400	521,100
Temporary working holiday maker	338,500	158,400
Temporary other	51,200	66,000
Bridging visas	295,300	415,800
Total	5,264,300	5,498,400

During 2020-21 the industries with the most jobs held by migrants were:

- Health care and social assistance (14.3% of migrants or 785,400 people)
- Administrative and support services (13.6% of migrants or 746,700 people)
- Accommodation and food services (10.6% of migrants or 584,000 people).

The Administrative and support services industry includes Labour supply services.

Graph 9 - Jobs held by migrants by industry, 2020-21



a. Some job records had missing or unknown industry information and therefore these percentages do not add to 100

Data downloads

Table 1. Jobs and employment income by sex, age, employer characteristics and geography, 2016-17 to 2020-21

[Download XLSX](#)

[856.39 KB]

Table 2. Employee jobs and employee income by sex, age, employer characteristics and geography, 2016-17 to 2020-21

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[1.24 MB]

Table 3. Employee jobs and income, by industry and geography, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(082f818d99f166a3ba574d9284d73064_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[1.1 MB\]](#)

Table 4. Multiple jobs holders and employment income, by sex, age, concurrent job characteristics and geography, 2016-17 to 2020-21

[!\[\]\(34b4f260a8587d2e97eeaee361cc357b_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[92.73 KB\]](#)

Table 5. Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises and income, by sex, age, business characteristics and geography, 2016-17 to 2020-21

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[\[67.35 KB\]](#)

Table 6. Employed persons and employment income by sex, age, occupation, job holding characteristics and geography, 2016-17 to 2020-21

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[\[968.77 KB\]](#)

Table 7. New South Wales spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(e8fb589d58dad1692debababa5e928b6_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[4.91 MB\]](#)

Table 8. Victoria spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(e1c624d4757f08486e89482c18364c17_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[3.05 MB\]](#)

Table 9. Queensland spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

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[\[2.98 MB\]](#)

Table 10. South Australia spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

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[\[2.68 MB\]](#)

Table 11. Western Australia spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(4146d17f71dced09c6ad789cacceaa6d_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[5.24 MB\]](#)

Table 12. Tasmania spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(bcece9a353e60caece619217f5c1ea39_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[1.13 MB\]](#)

Table 13. Northern Territory spotlights by local government areas, 2020-21

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[\[730.62 KB\]](#)

Table 14. Australian Capital Territory spotlight, 2020-21

[!\[\]\(fd47dc3c71882b0b4a62715dd757d994_img.jpg\) Download XLSX](#)
[\[79.29 KB\]](#)

Table 15. Summary statistics for all jobs, employee jobs and employed persons, 2011-12 to 2020-21

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[173.25 KB]

Table 16. Quarterly employee jobs and employee income by sex, age, business characteristics and geography, 2018-19 and 2020-21

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[201.06 KB]

Table 17. Quarterly employed persons and employee income by sex, age, occupation, industry of main job and geography, 2018-19 and 2020-21

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[153.6 KB]

Table 18. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by arrival group, sex and age, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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[570.14 KB]

Table 19. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by sex, state and territory, industry, and visa group, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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[1.45 MB]

Table 20. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by arrival group, sex and institutional sector, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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[400.39 KB]

Table 21. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by arrival group, sex and type of legal organisation, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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[285.43 KB]

Table 22. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by arrival group, sex and job duration, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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[336.86 KB]

Table 23. Migrants, Jobs and employee income by arrival group, sex and business employment size, 2017-18 to 2020-21

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All data cubes

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Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6160.0.

Methodology

[Jobs in Australia methodology, 2020-21 financial year](#)